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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/825,706	04/16/2004	Karl Rohrbaugh	R001-4529 (CIP)	9166
40627	7590	10/02/2006	EXAMINER	
			JOHNSON, STEPHEN	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
				3641

DATE MAILED: 10/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/825,706	ROHRBAUGH ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Stephen M. Johnson	3641	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 July 0206.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 7,8,13-20,25,26 and 31-36 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 21-24 and 27-30 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-6 and 9-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) 1-36 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 16 April 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

1. Applicant's election of the group II invention drawn to a semi-automatic handgun with a particular length, height, and thickness (dimensions) in the reply filed on 7/27/2006 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

Claims 1-6, 9-12, 21-24, and 27-30 either read on the elected invention or link the elected invention and an action on these claims follows. Claims 7-8, 13-20, 25-26, and 31-36 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to non-elected inventions.

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the tubular portion and generally conical portion (see claim 1) must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet"

pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

3. Claims 1-6 and 9-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1, lines 5-6, it is not understood as to how the slide is longitudinally moveable relative to itself. Please clarify. In claim 9, it is not understood as to how the claimed "hammer" is intended to relate to the previously claimed "a firing mechanism for striking the cartridge" particularly in view of the fact that the hammer does not directly contact the cartridge (see claim 1) but rather drives the firing pin which in turn contacts the cartridge.

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Browning (503).

Browning (503) discloses a semi-automatic handgun comprising:

- |   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| a) a frame;   | 10                 |
| b) a barrel with tubular and conical portions;        | 20, 22, see fig. 4 |
| c) a slide mounted on the frame;                      | 16                 |
| d) a firing mechanism for striking the cartridge; and | 76                 |
| e) a trigger.   | 55                 |

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6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Browning (503) in view of Raville (249).

Browning (503) applies as recited above. However, undisclosed is a semi-automatic firearm that is a 9 mm caliber firearm. Raville (249) teaches a semi-automatic firearm that is a 9 mm caliber firearm (col. 3, line 25). Applicant is substituting one caliber ammunition firearm for another in an analogous art setting as explicitly encouraged by the secondary reference (see col. 3, lines 16-32 of Raville). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in this art at the time of the invention to apply the teachings of Raville to the Browning firearm and have a firearm of a particular caliber.

8. Claims 1 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wilhelm (640).

Wilhelm (640) discloses a semi-automatic handgun comprising:

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| a) a frame;                                    | 200                   |
| b) a barrel with tubular and conical portions; | 300, see figs. 17, 18 |
| c) a slide mounted on the frame;               | 201                   |
| d) a firing mechanism (hammer);                | 100                   |
| e) a trigger;                                  | 11                    |
| f) a trigger bar; and                          | 15                    |

g) a biasing member. 16, 20

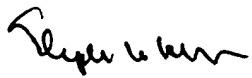
9. Claims 3-6 and 10-12 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

10. Claims 21-24 and 27-30 are allowed.

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen M. Johnson whose telephone number is 571-272-6877 and whose e-mail address is ([Stephen.Johnson@uspto.gov](mailto:Stephen.Johnson@uspto.gov)). The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Carone can be reached on 571-272-6873. The Central FAX phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 800-786-9199.



**STEPHEN M. JOHNSON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

SMJ  
September 27, 2006

Stephen M. Johnson  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3641